forms an essential part of the working of an organisation. However, there are already instructions issued by the Government that the Public Enterprises should be very careful in incurring expenditure relating to publicity and advertisements. Unnecessary and ostentatious expenditure on supplements, publication of souvenirs and on advertisements that are merely for the sake of projecting image should be avoided. There is no proposal under consideration to have a Government journal for publication of advertisements and tenders.

White Paper on Performance of P.S.Us.

2702. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Sector Undertakings which have entered into MOU for 1991-92;

(b) to what extent it has improved their performance;

(c) whether Government propose to issue a White Paper on the Performance of the Public Sector Enterprise; if so, when; and

(d) what are the reasons for the delay in issuing the White Paper in spite of repeated assurances given by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) 71 Public Sector Undertakings have entered into MOU for 1991-92.

(b) As per the MOU scores for 1991-92, 28 out of 57 MOU-signing PSEs who have furnished their scores so far have been provisionally rated as "Excellent".

(c) In view of the fact that the statement on Industrial Policy of 24th July, 1991, also covered the public sector, the Government do not propose to bring out a White Paper on the Public Sector Undertakings.

(d) Does not arise.

Protest by National Confederation of Officers' Association of the Central PSU

2703. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention was drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the Financial Express dated 24th September, 1992 regarding protests made by the National Confederation of Officers' Association of the Central Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, what are the steps taken to revaluate the assets of Public Sector Enterprises before selling their shares; and

(c) whether Government have ascertained the views of the Association before selling their shares?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Rehabilitation of Workers of Sick Industrial Units

2704. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of industrial units sector-wise that are sick as per the latest available information;

(b) what is the number of persons rendered unemployed due to these sick units; and

(c) what steps have been taken to rehabilitate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Data on sick industrial units assisted by Banks in the country are compiled by the Reserve Bank of India. According to the latest RBI data, by the end of March, 1991, 221472 industrial units in the small scale sector and 1461 industrial units in the non-small scale sector were reported sick.

(b) Such Statistics are not centrally maintained.

(c) Government has taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units with a view to minimise impact of industrial sickness on workers. Some of the important steps are given in the Statement. Government has also set up the National Renewal Fund which would act as a social safety net to protect the interest of workers against any possible adverse consequences of technological upgradation and modernisation of industrial units.

Statement

Steps taken by Government for Revival of Sick Industrial Units

The Government have enacted a comprehensive legislation namely 'The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985'. A quasi-judicial body designated as 'The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)' has been set up under the Act to deal with the problems of the sick industrial companies in an effective manner, which has become operational with effect from the 15th May, 1987.

(2) The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks for strengthening the monitoring systems and for arresting industrial sickness at the incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in time.

(3) The banks have also been directed by the Reserve Bank of India to formulate rehabilitation packages for the revival of potentially viable units. The banks and financial institutions evolve rehabilitation packages for the revival of sick units.

(4) Reserve Bank of India have also issued guidelines separately to the banks indicating parameters within which banks could grant reliefs and concessions for rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units without reference to RBI both in the large and small scale sector.

(5) Revival of sick industrial units is also done by amalgamation/merger of sick units with healthy units. Tax benefits are given under Section 72(A) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to the healthy company for revival of the amalgamating sick unit.

(6) Government has set up the National Renewal Fund which would, *inter-alia*, provide for payment of compensation to workers affected by industrial restructuring.

(7) On the advice of the Government of India, Reserve Bank of India has set up State Level Inter-Institutional Committees (SLIICs) in all States under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Industries Department of the concerned State Governments for working out a rehabilitation package for revival of viable sick small scale units.

(8) Financial assistance in the form of long term equity type assistance upto Rs. 1,50,000/- to units with a project cost not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs at a nominal service charge of one per cent per annum is also available to potentially viable sick small scale industrial units from the National Equity Fund set up in August, 1987.

(9) The Union Ministry of Industry is also operating a Centrally sponsored Margin Money Scheme for revival of sick small scale units, under which quantum of assistance per unit is upto Rs. 50,000/

(10) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has been established to function as an Apex Bank for tiny and small scale industries.

A separate Refinance Scheme for Rehabilitation (RSR) is being managed by SIDBI for revival of potentially viable sick small scale industrial units.

Draft Scheme for Rehabilitation of Workers

2705. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared a draft Scheme for the rehabilitation of workers likely to be affected by the new industrial policy; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Government has set up the National Renewal Fund to protect the interest of workers from any adverse consequences of technological upgradation and modernisation of Indian industry.

(b) The objectives of the National Renewal Fund are:

(i) to provide assistance to cover the costs of retraining and redeployment of employees arising as a result of modernisation, technology upgradation and industrial and restructuring;

(ii) to provide funds, where necessary, for compensation of employees affected by restructuring or closure of industrial units, both in the public and private sector; and

(iii) to provide funds for employment generation schemes both in the organised and unorganised sectors in order to provide a social safety net for labour needs arising from the consequences of industrial restructuring.

The National Renewal Fund will be in two parts namely, the National Renewal Grant Fund (NRGF) and the Employment Generation Fund (EGF). The NRGF would, *inter-alia*, provide for payment of compensation to workers affected by industrial restructuring and for their retraining and redeployment. The EGF will provide funds for approved employment generation schemes for organised and unorganised sectors.

Automatic clearance to proposals for foreign investment

2706. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign investment policy is proposed to be further liberalised to facilitate automatic clearance of a large number of proposals; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Further liberalisation of foreign investment policy is a continuing process.

Setting up of Joint Ventures in Bangladesh

2707. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bangladesh have invited Indian entrepreneurs to set up joint ventures in Bangladesh;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) what is the response of Indian entrepreneurs thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c)